declaration as National Waterways keeping in view the recommendations of the National Transport Policy Committee.

Acquisition of letters of Mahatama Gandhi from London

*188. SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN. Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently acquired a collection of letters of Mahatama Gandhiji from London;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to exhibit these prestigious documents; and

(c) what amount has been spent by Government for acquiring these documents and which is the agency through which these collections were acquired?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The collection, commonly known as Gandhi-Polak Correspondence, mainly covering the period from 1902 to 1956, comprises letters, telegrams, notes, articles, printed material, press cuttings and photographs etc. The letters are mostly written by Gandhiji to Henry Polak, (Gandhiji's articled clerk, and later his legal partner in Johannesburg and associate in his political campaigns including India's struggle for freedom). The collection, besides containing papers relating to Gandhiji's instructions for 'Satyagrah' in South Africa, also deals with the civil rights issues, including his (Gandhiji's) disappointment with General Smuts. Further, the collection also contains letters from Polak.

The collection is now in the custody of the National Archives of India, New Delhi. The work regarding arrangement and listing of the aforesaid papers is presently in progress Thereafter, these will have to be scientifically treated and duly repaired before their xerox copies could be prepared for making them available to the scholars.

As a measure of safety, it is proposed to keep the originals, after due repairs, sparately in safe custody and the same shall not be made ordinarily available to the scholars for consultation.

(c) Amount spent £ 154010. Acquired through the participation of our High Commission in London at a public auction held by Sotheby's London in July, 1988.

उत्तर प्रदेश में युवा होस्टल

*189. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय: क्या मानव संसाधन विकास** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) इस समय उत्तर प्रदेश में कितने युवा होस्टल हैं और वे किस-किस स्थान पर अवस्थित हैं;

(ख) क्या 1989-90 के दौरान उस राज्य में और अधिक युवा होस्टल बनाए जाने का कोई प्रस्ताव है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और इस प्रयोजन के लिए कितनी धनराशि की स्वीकृति दी गई है?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री (श्री पी० शिव शंकर): (क) से (ग) इस समय उत्तर प्रदेश में नैनीताल और आगरा में दो छात्रावास कार्य कर रहे हैं।

सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान छः और युवा छात्रावास राज्य को सिद्धांत रूप में आवंटित किए गए हैं। लखनऊ, उत्तरकाशी और मसूरी में युवा छात्रावासों के निर्माण के लिए 55.00 लाख रुपए प्रथम किश्त के रूप में दिए गए हैं।

International Conference on PLO

*190. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the latest position regarding calling of an international conference on

P.L.O. to expedite the peace process in West Asia; and

(b) whether the Government of India propose to take any new initiative in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K. K. TEWARI): (a) No agreement has yet been reached for the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East. Efforts to bring this about are being made.

(b) Government are assisting in and supporting these efforts. There is no proposal for any new initiative by India.

Non-Payment of UGC Pay-Scales in some Colleges in Delhi

*191. DR. R. K. PODDAR:
SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the University Grants Commission scales of pay approved by his Ministry and the Merit Promotion Scheme, are not being followed in Ayurvedic and Unani Tibbia College and a few other colleges in Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when both the schemes are likely to be fully made applicable to the colleges referred to above ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the UGC, University of Delhi, Dehli Administration and the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, the position in regard to the implementation of the revised pay scales of tachers of Colleges in Dehli is as follows:

(i) 61 Colleges, including the Ayurvedic and Unani Tibbia College, have implemented the Scheme of revision of pay scales of teachers University and Colleges and other measures for maintenance of standards in higher education as circulated by this Ministry dated 17.6.87 and modified on 22.7.88.

(ii) The teachers of 4 technical institutions, 3 medical colleges and 1 Nursing College have been given scales of pay recommended by the Fourth Pay Commission.

The Government of India has announced the revision of pay scales of teachers in Technical Institutions on 28.2.89 which is applicable to teachers of Colleges of Technical Education in Delhi. The scheme of revision of pay scales of teachers of Universities and Colleges and the scheme for revision of pay scales of teachers of technical institutions provide that the teachers may opt for the Merit Promotion Scheme, 1983 wherever it was in operation and avail of the replacement pay scales recommended by the Fourth Pay Commission instead of the revised pay scales.

Vayudoot stations in the country

*192 SHRI E. BALANANDAN:
SHRI P.K. KUNJACHEN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Vayudoot stations in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that Vayudoot is not touching most of its stations; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?